


IDEALS
IN
VERSE

CORNELIUS COLE

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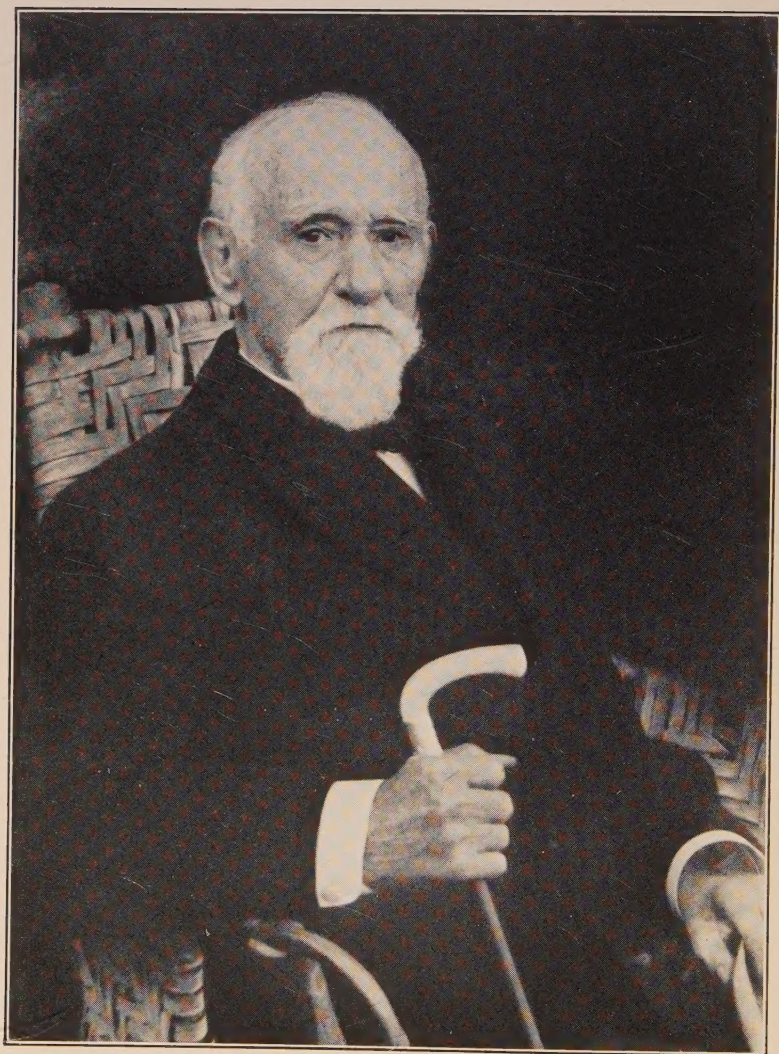
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IDEALS IN VERSE



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Cornelius Cole

IDEALS IN VERSE

BY

CORNELIUS COLE

LOS ANGELES
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CORNELIUS COLLE

DEDICATED TO
MY GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

PREFACE



Lofty ideals, profound truths, sublime thoughts, need no apologies at my hands, and I therefore have none to offer for having fathered the verses contained in this little volume. It has been a labor of love, and lovingly I dedicate this book, first, to my great grandchildren, and, second, to posterity in general. May the seeds of its message fall upon fruitful soil.



A noble sentiment or valued thought,
In but a single couplet may be taught.

A rhyme, tho' practically of little cost,
May save a useful mot from being lost.

Old Doctor Franklin bore this fact in mind,
And when he died left many such behind.

CORNELIUS COLE,
Hollywood, California,
September 17, 1924.

In the 103rd year of my birth.

PUBLISHER'S FOREWORD

"Ideals in Verse" marks another milestone in the eventful career of California's Grand Old Man—Senator Cornelius Cole. He finished this remarkable work and handed the manuscript to the publishers on his 102nd birthday. In it is condensed a philosophy of life and human conduct that bespeaks the keen observation of a man who has seen much along the highway of life; of a man who has emerged from the strife and turmoil of more than five score years with a kindly interest in mankind; not a passive interest, but a vibrant, keen desire to help his fellow men along the road that he himself knows so well—hence this little book, "Ideals in Verse."

IDEALS IN VERSE

Ideals in Verse

Friendship of the good and wise
Is friendship one should mostly prize.

Well may we pray: "Good Lord, defend
Us first against a foolish friend."

One slight misstep may blight one's whole career;
It is the first misstep that one should fear.

The good in man the evil far exceeds,
The good are many, few, his evil deeds.

Sins in the sight of God are easy to forgive,
But those in sight of man one hardly can outlive.

When wealth increases many friends draw near;
When wealth departs, friends likewise disappear.

The heart inspired with gratitude will find
Opportunities abundant to be kind.



The new and useful is the thing desired,
As something better always is required.



Altho' there never is a perfect thing,
There always is much in one's bettering.



With corporal exertion one never can dispense
If health he would preserve, and likewise common sense.



If wisely the first error you avoid,
You will not by the second be annoyed.



Who builds a house, or monument, for fame,
The plainest style will best preserve his name.



"Too much familiarity breeds contempt,"
But none is from familiarity exempt.

A change of habit will not change of nature bring,
Habits are changeable, but nature is another thing.

'Tis vain to try to hide what all can see,
Or from the effect of crime to try to flee.

We try, but try in vain, to cease to hate
All those who wilful wrong will perpetrate.

A helping hand lend when you can,
You owe this to your fellow man.

Be not in haste to change your ills;
The last may be the one that kills.

An injury to one a menace is to all;
No one can tell where the injury will fall.

The man that over others control would exercise,
Should be, than all the others, very much more wise.

It is a fact that one too rarely sees,
"That the remedy is worse than the disease."



First, assistance give, then counsel tender,
But, first of all, assistance render.



Too great familiarity may grow to be,
In time, offensive to the last degree.



Prophets of evil are more bold
Than those by whom good is foretold.



'Tis easy into debt to fall,
But to get out, not so at all.



Some seek for notoriety and others seek for fame,
Short-sighted persons often think they are the same.



Forbear to sacrifice old friends for new;
The new distrust, the old at least are true.

A consciousness of right adds to one's bravery;
While a sense of wrong is perpetual slavery.



The mark when large is easy hit,
When small, we do not care for it.



That country is in an unhappy state
Where laws against the poor discriminate.



Most kinds of wealth come from the ground,
Aside from such, small wealth is found.



Necessity to written law pays meager court;
There is but slight regard for law in last resort.



A truly grateful heart its gratitude will show;
By acts, and not by words, its nature you may know.



A fitly spoken word in season
Will answer all the ends of reason.

Ask not for that which is in vain,
Nor without some good cause complain.



As labor is the source of all our gains,
To favor labor all should take great pains.



Others' faults to this extent may us concern,
That we may from their faults a lesson learn.



Our own misfortunes we lament;
With others' ills we are content.



One is not apt an injury to forget,
While he who caused the same is present yet.



By abstinence some pleasures we enjoy;
By surfeit, many pleasures we alloy.



A great reform is to undo some wrong;
Some wrong, perhaps, that has existed long.

Our anticipations of childhood and youth
Differ sadly, at times, from the subsequent truth.

Trust not that person as a friend
Who fails his family to defend.

The one who would enjoy a benefit
Should share the dangers that pertain to it.

If in adversity you would on help depend,
Then in prosperity you should protect a friend.

Friends in need are the friends indeed;
Without such friends who can succeed?

If you would not be in some venture lost,
Before you enter on the same first count the cost.

He will be pronounced fool or dunce
Who has too much on hand at once.

The arrogance of those we owe
To insolence in time may grow.



A benefit conferred upon the evilly inclined
Will help the ingrate other injuries to find.



The welfare of the nation on the farmer's work depends;
Wisest statesmen, therefore, to the farmer's wants attend.



The strong do not always prevail;
The greatest men may sometimes fail.



When one prates much about his honesty,
Be not too sure that he will honest be.



Better be contented with our lot,
Than flee to something—we know not what.



When Earth neglects to yield her usual supply,
A famine dire ensues, and men and women die.

Name and fame have this effect—
They make their owner circumspect.

A poor opinion is easily won,
But a poor opinion is better than none.

Money is the instrument of trade,
When not the aim of speculation made.

All information that we have today
In a hundred years will have passed away.

The knowledge one obtains, at any cost,
Upon his death becomes entirely lost.

Some of the wisdom which Lord Bacon gained,
On his demise in form of books remained.

But of his boundless learning, not so left,
The world by his departure was bereft.

As we behold the crudeness of the past,
So our conduct will be looked on at last.

Want of an object gives it worth,—
Not an abundance, but a dearth.

If you men's admiration would compel,
What e'er you undertake to do, do well.

Accomplish all you can of good in life,
And to that end, be there no end of strife.

Be wise, and make the most of everything;
'Tis optimistic thoughts that good luck bring.

A hopeless mind will hopeless make
Most of the schemes you undertake.

It is enlightened man that first to anger yields;
In Europe we behold a thousand battle fields.

The most contentious of mankind are those
Who most enlightened do themselves suppose.

Friendships that are with money bought,
With money may be turned to naught.

But little in the world is left to chance;
A man will retrograde, or else advance.

The people that indulge in war the most,
Are nearly all the peace-instructed host.

'Tis ignorance that breeds distrust;
Distrust is often most unjust.

Faults and foibles which our minds affect,
In others we more readily detect.

The power produced by steam for transportation,
Has brought close to each other every nation.

The horse, the ox, the ass, the camel gaunt,
For transportation we no longer want.

❖ ❖ ❖

Domestic animals, for food, displace
Those which our ancestors obtained by chase.

❖ ❖ ❖

The mighty steamships plow the sea with ease,
Where once the sails were set to catch the breeze.

❖ ❖ ❖

The oar in hand, the sail set for the wind,
Once transportation gave for all mankind.

❖ ❖ ❖

The despot to the burden of taxation
Adds robbery at times, and confiscation.

❖ ❖ ❖

As wrong must be atoned by hurt,
So justice will its power assert.

❖ ❖ ❖

Wrong-doing carries its own punishment,
Whether the child of chance, or of intent.

Man may assume to overlook a wrong,
But Nature, wiser, sings a different song.



Let this great fact be always borne in mind,
That man by nature is to good inclined.



If one would all the ends of life fulfil,
Let him keep full control of his own will.



There is some good in the depraved,
So much, the culprit may be saved.



When thoughts the will cease to obey,
They seize the bit and run away.



When the will controls the thought,
Then men can do just what they ought.



Antagonism is a law of man's progress;
He thrives not more on aid than on duress.

Those people in past ages, morally the best,
Are those who in wisdom have excelled the rest.



While in the moral law there is no change,
Religious faith assumes the widest range.



While truth is free with error to contend,
There need be little fear of what will be the end.



Maugre the belief, maugre the name,
The moral law will always be the same.



The more enlightened and the more refined,
The more to honest faith is one inclined.



The true philosopher in ancient days,
Honest, just, and truthful was, always.



The nation that is most refined,
To wickedness is least inclined.

Religion and intelligence are best of friends,
For superstition crass they make amends.



Such is the imperfection of the human mind,
That the cause of things we often fail to find.



If to comprehend how little I do know
Is wise, said Socrates, I must be so.



Kind-hearted people try in vain to give relief
Against bad laws which make the mendicant and thief.



Most despicable are they who but pretend;
And, tho inimical, still play the part of friend.



The moss adheres not to a rolling stone;
That which accumulates is industry alone.



They do not whisper good news in your ear
Who kindly wish all people that to hear.

Each shall the fruit and the advantage gain
Which to his labor and his life pertain.



Full tho one may be of poetic thought,
Unuttered, when he dies, it comes to naught.



Browning, it is believed, did not intend
That people should his verses comprehend.



What men bargain for, as a rule, they gain,
Happiness and joy, or misery and pain.



From this one line alone you can a good long lesson learn,
Meddle not with those affairs which do not you concern.



What ills we bring upon ourselves we must endure;
Self-inflicted injuries are hard to cure.



It never was quite fair to mother Eve
To try to make posterity believe
That she alone, poor thing, had instigated
A sin for which first Adam was created.

Money it is that bargains bring,
Without it property takes wing.



Success and power oppression inculcate,
So many disappointments lead to hate.



More than of rulers, is the nation's fame,
Grander than Caesar's was the Roman name.



The law, the reason is; the two agree;
Their disagreement one will seldom see.



Success, on self-assertion much depends,
Without it, one cannot attain his ends.



He who has no ambition to excel,
Must with the common herd expect to dwell.



Success depends upon one's aspirations;
Whether with brutes to herd, or with the nations.

The couplet must contain some useful thought;
Without the sentiment, the rhyme is naught.



One must grow before he can reach;
One must learn before he can teach.



When appetite and passion seek control,
Resistance is the value of the soul.



A pretext for a fight is not hard to find,
If, like an angry bull, one should be so inclined.



When you lay your armor down 'tis time to boast;
After you have put it on the battle may be lost.



Some men, like hounds, in packs, their courage show,
By fierce attacks upon a fallen foe.



Fairest thing in all the world is a sweet woman's face;
In contest for beauty's prize, what else can claim its place?

Protect your character as a sacred hoard;
No one, to lose his reputation, can afford.

The answer, "You're another," plainly shows
That the accused no other defense knows.

Men assume to believe what they wish to believe,
And thus would themselves and all others deceive.

Some people will not be with truth content,
But always seek the truth to circumvent.

The thoughts and feelings in the features show,
The fiend, or angel, one may always know.

The human face by nature was designed
To show to all the world each person's mind.

The thoughts and feelings are quite sure to be
Imprinted on the face that all may see.

One shows in his face what he thinks and feels;
One's thoughts and one's feelings he never conceals.



Envy and hatred indulged,
Will in the features be divulged.



In features it plainly is seen,
If one is fault-finding and mean.



If one possesses true goodness of heart,
The features always that fact will impart.



A pleasing expression you never will find
In one who indulges perverseness of mind.



The one who takes a pessimistic view,
Shows in his face what evil thoughts can do.



As one's life is, that in his face will be;
Love, hate, or jealousy in the face you see.

The mirror of one's life, the human face,
The story tells of glory or disgrace.



The face is a true index of the mind,
Of thoughts, or good or bad, it shows the kind.



To prove some facts there is no need of evidence;
Their verity appeals alone to common sense.



What to one's pleasure can contribute more
Than the simplicity of classic lore?



"It is the truth that wounds," and not the lie,
To wound with falsehood one in vain may try.



A theory, the mere product of thought,
Differs widely from a fact already wrought.



The larger part of life is happiness.
But little of life passes in distress.

Rather than not to be alive at all,
Men will in trouble live, and basely crawl.



A leading tendency of the human mind,
Is in some other one some fault to find.



With partisans in politics, the only end
In view, is errors of their party to defend.



When misled and corrupt, it is best,
That the party itself should have rest.



With the mere partisan, the aim and end
Is the misdoings of his party to defend.



The partisan is seldom looking for the right,
But for some ground on which the truth to fight.



The party dolt in triumph will exult,
No matter how disastrous the result.

'Tis sorrowful to see the public weal
So often sacrificed to party zeal.



The citizen his party should defend,
So long as he its justice can commend.



When party by designing men is led astray,
Restored it may be by defeat—no other way.



A party's name and fame always relies
On those who for the time its functions exercise.



The good name of their party, its members should defend;
Never to its misconduct their countenance should lend.



The self-reliant people are but very few;
Most do and think what others think and do.



It is well to inquire what reasons others guide,
And then upon your own good judgment to confide.

Large wonders in the smallest things abound,
Subjects of thought in microbes may be found.



The virtue of a party will in time recede
Before the politicians' graft and greed.



A bad bargain is surely made
When friendship enters in the trade.



Too many voters are by prejudice controlled,
And not a few, alas! by silver and by gold.



But little heed is paid to whether right or wrong,
But, "fealty to the party," is the burden of their song.



To their own rights men pay but little heed,
Handfuls of men the parties always lead.



All revolutions by a few are led,
But by thoughtless people they are sped.

Popular uprisings by few men are controlled,
The masses always do about what they are told.

The "interests," in strife for power always win,
And, as a rule, the populace fall in.

Possession is the end and aim of man;
Each schemes to get and keep all that he can.

No matter how oppressive a government may be,
With all its exactions the people will agree.

If one none other can abide,
He with his own is satisfied.

Be slow to anger and quick to forgive;
One has, at most, but a short time to live.

Possession is the one aim in the human hive,
Like wealth, power is possession for which men strive.

No despot can depend upon himself alone,
It is the public clamor that sustains the throne.



The greatest of the triumphs of knavery,
Is when men vote themselves into slavery.



The guilty one will not his wrongs amend,
He is more likely to his wrongs defend.



To the observing mind, conduct discloses
Much more than the one observed supposes.



Things of but little moment to the actor may,
To a shrewd observer, a whole character betray.



A man should always thoughtful be and circumspect,
And not the small amenities of life neglect.



The boor, assuming manners, will be rude;
The ears above disguises will protrude.

The conscience is what it is made;
The best of men will cheat in trade.



He who is always looking for offense,
Need not wait long for trouble to commence.



Faithful to some leader men will keep,
Altogether too much like a flock of sheep.



A little may show, of true gentility, a lack;
The acting doctor, by a word, may prove himself a quack.



A gentleman will, at all times, his proper breeding show;
While by single act, may be, a blackguard you may know.



The greatest fault among mankind
Is the want of independent mind.



The one who carefully observes the human mind,
A motive for each individual act will find.

The populace will sometimes recognize an act
As beneficial, when it is not so in fact.



"Procrastination is the thief of time,"
And is too often guilty of that crime.



"Deceitful are the kisses of an enemy,
And the wounds of a friend may faithful be."



Some men who deeply think among the poor are found,
And those who think but little, everywhere abound.



As character depends upon environment,
One must not always with what happens be content.



Philosophy upon our nature should intrude
Enough to keep us in the path of rectitude.



When people, as they sometimes do, stampede,
To reason they, no more than animals, pay heed.

The tyranny of an excitable majority
Is quite as bad as that of any one can be.

Much injury by the multitude is sometimes wrought,
Before the time arrives for the sober second thought.

The Constitution simply shields the minority
Against the hasty acts of the majority.

If all mankind were honest—all man just,
Then socialism on them could put its trust.

If socialists, perchance, should get the upper hand,
Not one, or two, but everybody will be in command.

True socialism, in a marked degree,
Is found in every stage of our society.

The Constitution shields the weak against the strong;
Prevents the perpetration by the latter of much wrong.

The fable differs from the allegory,
In that the fable is the shorter story.



One's character may depend on a single act;
One's nature may be disclosed by a single fact.



Let this new socialism be what it may,
Less than a majority must never sway!



Under proper circumstances men are good,
When left by nature to do what they would.



The laws that govern things throughout all space,
Are the laws, likewise, of the human race.



The great sin is in breaking Nature's laws;
Repentance is not asked for other cause.



The God of Nature certain laws has given;
To break them is a sin in sight of Heaven.

Those who obedient are to Nature's laws,
To repent of sin will have no cause.

Be sure, no greater sins can mankind perpetrate,
Than those which to the laws of Nature's God relate.

Do not of great economy vaunt,
It borders on privation and want.

When the horse is stolen, lock the stable-door,
And then say why it was not done before.

Upon one's tomb is chiseled without chagrin,
Not what he was, but what he should have been.

Judging from what is on the tombstones given,
All in the churchyard must have gone to heaven.

One's virtues in his epitaph are named,
His wickedness is never there proclaimed.

Compared, in size, with what is in plain sight,
The world we live upon is but a mite.



We try and try again to comprehend
When time began, and of space the end.



A small divergence from a line direct,
Produced enough a circle will effect.



Truth and superstition never can agree,
The one from the other in haste will flee.



What is not wanted will not money bring,
'Tis want alone gives value to a thing.



You only dogmas find, supported by the church,
When thru whole mints of books for theology you search.



All interest in those who on us may depend,
Will in a hundred years at least come to an end.

The poorest people in the world are those
Who, tho quite poor, still rich themselves suppose.



Those who get rich by fits and starts,
Acquire their wealth by villains' arts.



Erasmus says that reason is the only guide,
And that nothing is reliable beside.



Of the stream when it starts we can see the trend,
But who can tell where that same stream will end?



In childhood one a bent may see,
But not just what the man will be.



The wisest are not always wise, nor do the good
On all occasions do just what they should.



If to improve your looks you are inclined,
The proper way is to improve the mind.

The thoughts and feelings in the face will show;
If one be good or bad, you thus may know.



The face the thoughts and feelings will betray,
Endeavor to conceal them as we may.



Brood not over the misfortunes of the past;
Hatch not new ones, but count the past the last.



Let not reverses breed discouragement,
They are to test your grit by Fortune meant.



Both hate and envy on the face will show,
To know one's mind, one has not far to go.



To wean one from the fondness of his life,
Old age is much beset with toil and strife.



Years smooth the path of exit from this sphere,
And the path smoother grows from year to year.

The exercise of an independent will
All the requirements of a reason will fulfil.

To at the spigot save and at the bunghole waste,
Will not a fortune slow dispel, but in great haste.

In this fair land of ours the women have
Prerogatives the men do not possess nor crave.

The universe no man can comprehend,
Nor of time the beginning, nor the end.

Any mere brute the shining stars can see;
Their movements note about as well as we.

No one becomes base suddenly;
Crime is approached by slow degree.

No person is all wicked, or all good;
Learn what you should not do, and what you should.

By oft repeated effort one grows strong
To resist a natural tendency to wrong.



The proudest human trait is self-control.
Look well to this, for it is worth your soul.



Heredity is no excuse for crime;
The will can conquer that, at any time.



If one, when young, is predisposed to evil,
He should not be surrendered to the devil.



If more inclined to good than evil ways,
The good should strengthened be by meed of praise.



If predisposed to disregard the right,
That disposition fight with all your might.



Educate the child the wrong to shun;
Good life results from work when thus begun.

God hath bestowed upon each man a will
To do, or not to do, His purpose to fulfil.



The will alone the man can save,
Without the will he is a slave.



The idle dog that bays the moon,
Is not the dog that trees the coon.



The food of the mind, even differs in kind,
As that which the body supplies;
Some is poor, some good, some is wretched mind food,
However the attempt to disguise.



Select with care the best food for the mind,
'Tis worse than waste to take some other kind.



Just as you would choose wholesome food
To keep the body strong,
So you should try, when books you buy,
The mind to help along.



As health of body is always admired,
So health of mind is equally desired.

There is no danger in a little learning,
Except that it creates for more a yearning.



'Tis in accord with nature's plans,
To find "sans mens in corpore sans."



As years advance, man's hold on life decreases,
Until, at last, desire to live long ceases.



Age and decrepitude prepare us all
To meet without regret the final call.



'Tis sad for youth and vigor to meet death;
Infirmity prepares to greet the final breath.



As pleasant music is euphonious,
So all the laws of nature are harmonious.



'Tis wise to welcome the decrees of fate
As coming not too early, nor too late.

We cannot far into the future look;
The future is to us a sealed book.



Events while passing, only, can we know,
Human penetration can but little further go.



This paradox in nature shows up the human mind,
The past is all before us and the future is behind.



"De mortuis nil nisi bonum" is the rule,
But is there harm in saying that a person was a fool?



Words are but chaff: The thoughts which they contain
You search for in the chaff; they are the grain.



Mere words are only chaff; thoughts are the grain;
Sometimes you search this chaff for thoughts, in vain.



If in a bushel of chaff one grain you find,
It doubtless will some book bring to your mind.

Mere language is the straw, the grain the thought;
The straw without the grain amounts to naught.



The husk, or language, may be bright and clear;
The value is not in the husk, but in the ear.



For health, look well to what you eat and drink;
Would you improve the mind? first stop and think.



In order not contempt to show,
Thad Stevens left the court, you know.



Much that we read is of but little use;
It is, for literature, a poor excuse.



The books that are worth reading are but few;
Of most, their merit is in being new.



Much that goes under the name of learning,
Is pronounced otherwise by the discerning.

The borrower of trouble is a bad debtor,
For trouble borrowed one is never better.

Annoyances are incident to life,
Living, with most, is a continual strife.

The world is but a stage, they say,
And each, in life, his part must play.

"In Rome, do as the Romans do," is the command.
That is, do as the natives do in every land.

'Tis better to endure a little curse
Than run the risk of getting something worse.

Some rules in life a man must never break,
A small infraction of them is a great mistake.

That whistle, as Franklin said, is dearly bought,
When you read a whole book through to find a thought.

Sometimes great alarm comes from no intended harm;
Sometimes greatest harm comes without the least alarm.



Instinct and foresight are the same;
The difference only is in name.



Before the days of Kepler and Galileo,
But little did mankind about the heavens know.



The telescope it was that brought to light
The wonders of the boundless, starry night.



Our fathers thought the universe was made for man,
One of the smallest specks in the Almighty's plan.



Innumerable worlds, we plainly see;
Abodes of human beings, it may be.



The bear thus whispered in the traveler's ear:
"Beware of him who is o'ercome with fear."

Observe the oxen and the wheel not greased;
The ones who suffer most complain the least.



The dog that in the manger lay,
By growling, drove the ox away.



The fox observed the tracks all leading in one way,
Pretending to be sick, the lion gained his prey.



The raven sought in vain to change his hue
By bathing, as he saw the white swans do.



The boastful traveler said that when in Rome
He did things which he could not do at home.



The wolf from just punishment could not keep,
Although dressed in the clothing of the sheep.



The mockingbird with thieving blackbirds caught,
To evade their punishment, in vain he sought.

Shepherds kill and eat the sheep,

But the wolf away must keep.



The sweeping wind blew down the oak,

The bending reed escaped unbroke.



The gnat that could the lion bite,

Could not against the spider fight.



The painted jackdaw was betrayed

By the unusual noise he made.



Trust not your flock to wolf, however kind

Today; tomorrow he may change his mind.



The wolves, tho few, will easy keep

In abject fear whole flocks of sheep.



In searching for unlawful game,

The fox upon the bulldog came.

The wolf advised for his own good,
When he desired the lamb for food.



The dogs could boldly tear the lion's skin,
But how about it with the lion in?



The hospitality he showed the crane,
To Mr. Fox, was meted out again.



The bat, a bird, or beast, would with the victors be,
At last a bird, or beast, at the wrong time, was he.



The lion most deplored his cage;
He cared not for the foxes' rage.



The jackdaw would an eagle be,
And by the shepherd caught, was he.



Of self-importance was the gnat,
When on the ox's horn he sat.

The ass to ape the festive monkey sought,
And so, upon himself disaster brought.



The sheep, to make the coat, supplied the wool,
And then the garment did to pieces pull.



"The lion and the shepherd" case is cited,
To show that kindness always is required.



The fable of "the bulls and the lion," shows
That one who can divide, may conquer all his foes.



Revenge, the fable says, is sweet,
Even when the same in death, men meet.



The viper, when warmed into life,
Attacked and bit the woodman's wife.



The fox had many shifts to make;
The cat but one, the tree to take.

The other beasts sought to divide the game,
But no one durst resist the lion's claim.

The treatment Reynard gave the crane,
To him was meted out again.

Nor fox, nor stork could well complain
For neither did advantage gain.

Because he crowed before the peep of day,
Sly Reynard made poor chanticleer his prey.

The shepherd to the wolf at last paid heed,
And after that he had, of dogs, no need.

Wrongs which at first most cordially we hate,
We get accustomed to, and then vindicate.

When theory to practice you reduce,
It is no longer theory, but use.

Not the rhyme at all, but the sentiment,
May, of the couplet be the true intent.

❖ ❖ ❖

Attraction all material things will draw;
Everything is subject to this law.

❖ ❖ ❖

Some substance by existence is inferred,
Existence without substance is absurd.

❖ ❖ ❖

Gravitation is in all substance found;
Substance without gravitation is unsound.

❖ ❖ ❖

Everything is a material thing;
Our mind we cannot to the reverse bring.

❖ ❖ ❖

But hold! this thought itself is what?
Can it be said that thought is not?

❖ ❖ ❖

Where is the gravitation and the weight
That to the thought and to sound relate?

Success in life, my friend, I tell you true,
Depends on knowing just what next to do.



Environment will character unfold,
Even to the making of it dross or gold.



The body but the servant is, the mind the master,
The master must the servant shield against disaster.



The merit of the rhyme alone is nought,
The value of the rhyme is in the thought.



Man is as pagan as he ever was
And pays as slight regard to nature's laws.



Has one a stupid, empty pate?
He clears himself by blaming Fate.



Man's boasting of activity is loud;
A woman of receptivity is proud.

The human being in two parts we find,
The body first, and after that the mind.

The master should the servant guard with jealous eye
So that with all the rules of health he may comply.

That it may send its shaft with greater force
The bow must rest unstrung at times, of course.

On time's uncertain sea we strive,
By constant swimming kept alive.

True merit is not measured by success,
Nor punishment by physical distress.

Each person's life is but a game of chess,
The moves are made with forethought, or by guess.

Men will, for their own foibles, find excuse,
But deem them in another great abuse.

Bad luck and foolishness are just the same,
They differ, if at all, only in name.



There is both good and evil in each person's mind,
One wholly good or wholly bad you can not find.



As good and evil in each one is found,
The question may be, which doth most abound?



Unless you carefully discriminate,
You will not know whom you should love or hate.



The fakir, the spendthrift, the drunkard, the thief,
Alike void of reason must fall into grief.



So short our sight that what we deem a curse
May prove to be exactly the reverse.



Even that may be a blessing in disguise,
Which seems an evil to our mortal eyes.

First love makes a man a fool, a woman wise,
It blinds the man, but opens wide the woman's eyes.



The wise are fortunate, the foolish never,
Success depends on personal endeavor.



To give expression to a sentiment
Is of this little rhyme the sole intent.



Foolishness from a fool will never flee,
Even though brayed in a mortar he may be.



Storms on life's voyage and a rough sea
To every mortal are a certainty.



In every legislative body may be found
Both fools and knaves, and some with reason sound.



Give to all things their proper weight,
The good respect, the wicked hate.

Behold the person favored by the Fates!

It is the person who discriminates.



The crowning fault of mankind is excess,

Divergence from reason will lead to distress.



The tendency to betterment is very strong;

And man may reach perfection before long.



Abstinence, temperance and diet will bring

Good health and enjoyment of everything.



For good luck or bad there is ample cause;

God favors the people who obey His laws.



Good health, or bad, has always ample cause;

Health comes to those who follow nature's laws.



Kind nature never fails to lend her aid,

When to obey her laws attempt is made.

Poor Richard many cunning couplets wrought,
And by them to the people wisdom taught.



Small people do not think themselves so small,
They sometimes think themselves extremely tall.



While man in boasting of his strength is loud,
The woman of her greater charms is proud.



Male and female, God in His wisdom made them so,
And that they should always in pairs together go.



Watchfulness is of liberty the cost,
If not well guarded, freedom will be lost.



Goodness and politeness together go,
The one without the other is not so.



Do not postpone, bravely essay
The work that should be done today.

Postpone not to a later day
The work which you may now essay.

There is some merit in a thing begun,
But much more merit in the thing well done.

Success in life depends on estimation,
And next to that is discrimination.

No one an injury can volunteer
Unless he has some recompense to fear.

Sweet peace is Paradise and war is hell,
Satan from the former sped and in the latter fell.

Two by two in Noah's ark they went,
Male with female, the two always content.

There is some merit in a thing begun,
But do not boast until the thing is done.

There is many a slip between cup and lip,
And "a small leak will sink a great ship."



When the dog and the wolf together were seen,
It was safe to conclude there was mischief between.



When old foes in war their forces unite,
It is for some innocent party to fight.



You cannot counsel those who will not take advice;
The foolishhest are those who think themselves most wise.



Do not give up old friends for new,
The new are all untried, the old are true.



When one prates much about his honesty,
Be not too sure that he will honest be.



The wolf was left by Trust his charge to keep;
The dog away, the wolf devoured the sheep.

The example set the young crab by the old,
Effected more than what the young was told.



Be generous when you can, but first be just;
Sweet charity you may discharge, but debt you must.



Those men who are in need of courage most,
Are aptest of their bravery to boast.



Strange to say, this happens every day;
While we regard the shadows, the substance flees away.



When the shoemaker sticks to his last and wax-end,
He will his own fortune, as well as shoes, mend.



In serving, the wicked expect no gains;
Be thankful to escape ill-luck for your pains.



How strange that those who others fortunes tell
Cannot forecast their own fortunes as well!

The wilful man, to his own hurt, will have his way;
His injuries, at last, will his foolishness betray.



The adage runs: Birds of a feather
Will seek each other and flock together.



Those who build many castles in the skies,
Will not see many earthly mansions rise.



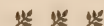
Each workman suggesting a thing to be made,
Will preference show for his line of trade.



Sweet memories of the past let all retain,
They give one pleasure when they come again.



All others' faults I quickly see,
But not those which pertain to me.



What pleases one may be another's bane;
What is one's loss may be another's gain.

The lessons that are by experience taught,
Are far more useful, the more dearly bought.



The vain endeavor to please every one
Is likely to result in pleasing none.



Be not in haste to change one evil for another;
Do not a stranger put before a brother.



A bear shut in the fold destroyed the sheep;
An enemy too strong, one need not keep.



Most of the good die young, but some survive;
And some, once good, now bad, remain alive.



'Tis folly to attribute one's ill-luck to fate,
When each one his own fortune may create.



The best trees are selected for utility,
And leading minds for great responsibility.

The great and wise astrologers of Kublai Khan,
Taught that planting trees prolonged the life of man.



There can be no delay in time, or tide;
All persons by their progress must abide.



It is wisely ordained by nature that we
Our greatest misfortunes can never foresee.



As much wrong in a court of justice may appear,
As is to notice brought in many another sphere.



The large fish in the net abide,
The small ones through the meshes glide.



Many fools are often made by one;
A crowd will sometimes on a false scent run.



It is pleasanter to give than to receive;
'Tis sweet another's misery to relieve.

Each country is by two grand classes filled:
Consumers, and those by whom the fields are tilled.



The statesman that would make his country strong
Can ill afford to let the farmer suffer wrong.



When labor is reduced to want so that it needs must beg,
You will have killed the goose that lays the golden egg.



Reliable advice is that
"You need not try to bell the cat."



Just as you grind the labor down, to that degree
The State must languish, and unhappy be.



When you have broke the lines of an opposing force,
You will have won a victory, almost of course.



Ofttimes, when we one trouble would avoid,
Are by another, and a greater one annoyed.

The certainties of life should be preferred;
Neglect them not for what you have but heard.



One bird in hand is better than three
In the air, on the wing, or a neighboring tree.



A hero is not by his boasting known,
His courage will appear from acts alone.



In time of peace for war make preparation,
This is the safest course for any nation.



Each is infatuated with his own,
And will maintain that better there is none.



When the shadow is the subject of contention,
The substance men too often fail to mention.



Virtue is a constant reproach to such
As, from misconduct, cannot boast of much.

Every man his fortune finds,
When each one his own business minds.

Bad enterprises, though most promising,
Will surely in the end misfortune bring.

Beware! do not give up old friends for new,
The new ones are untried, the old are true.

You cannot counsel those who will not take advice;
The foolishhest are those who think themselves most wise.

Depravity, says Socrates, runs very fast,
And easily outstrips grim death at last.

Too many things at once do not essay,
Some portion of your task is for another day.

In overstrained economy there is but little gain;
From undertaking many things a man may well refrain.

Nothing is more certain than that truth will make us free;
Unless it be that error is the cause of slavery.



Offspring are handsome in their mothers' eyes,
Even when to others they are otherwise.



The child should not be blamed for want of merit,
When he that want from parents doth inherit.



Straws cast forth will always show
Just the way the wind doth blow.



Into far greater evils men do sometimes fall,
When seeking to escape the evils that are small.



The lion's share is nearly all;
The weakling's part is very small.



Among the wolves he was a king,
Among the lions the same old thing.

The peacock for plumage, the nightingale for song,
The eagle for strength, these to each belong.



Trust not the wolf to guard your flock of sheep,
But in their care you must your own eyes keep.



The man that is down it is common to spurn;
All viewed the sick lion without much concern.



The dog's greed was requited at great cost;
By grasping for the shadow, his meat was lost.



The ass that starved that he might imitate
The music of the birds, deserved his fate.



The silly stork expected gain,
When he relieved the wolf from pain.



The fuller cannot be content
In the coal-dealer's tenement.

The scorpion thought men should refrain
From too much risk in hope of gain.

Love and attraction seem to be the same,
And hate of repulsion is but another name.

Brief time at most, men have to cherish hate,
Death and the grave all enmities abate.

Praise when you can, blame when you must;
You may be generous, but must first be just.

The rose is beautiful and fragrant, too;
Kind deeds do others good and likewise you.

The thorn is hid, the rose is in full view;
Our evil deeds we hide, but not the good we do.

The summer dew on all descend,
Kind Nature is to all a friend.

Tomorrow! who can tell what it will bring?

Today is sure; be joyful, play and sing.

Today is all your own, do with it what you will;

The future is unknown. Your destiny fulfil.

Oh! how much brighter is the world,
And how it doth improve!

How many beauties are unfurled,
When one is deep in love.

'Tis strange how love perverts the sight,

And turns to beauty a mere fright.

The best laid plans of men and mice,

Too often vanish in a trice.

Who does not fight, but runs away,

Will do the same another day.

All men at certain times are brave,

At others, each his life will save.

The unjust man is a poltroon,
He cheats ; but sings another tune.



Beware of him who boasts
About his honesty the most.



The boaster and the man who much pretends,
Must not be courted as the best of friends.



The man of deeds, and tho the boaster merely,
Can be relied upon to act sincerely.



The dog that barks is not so apt to bite,
As one that sneaks upon you in the night.



The croaking frog may frighten timid boys,
When frog and all is nothing but a noise.



For every idle man some other one
Must toil from early morn till set of sun.

For this clear reason, flesh and blood are cheap,
That human kind are like a flock of sheep.

Be diligent, work while you may;
No morning sun lasts throughout the day.

Men are most certain to despise
Those who think themselves most wise.

The chief complaint against Socrates was,
That he made the worse appear the better cause.

He makes the worse appear the better reason,
Was said of Socrates; and this was treason.

I think it true of poets of this day,
Few comprehend precisely what they say.

Human life is shortened in various ways,
One must have peace of mind to live out half his days.

"You're another," is the argument of last resort;
It is of conscious guilt the prompt retort.



If one there be whom all should hate,
That one is surely the ingrate.



The viper on its benefactor made attack
When in his bosom warmed to life brought back.



Remember this: To sunshine friends pay little heed.
A friend, when friend you need, is friend indeed.



Misfortune is true friendship's test;
Friends when most needed are the best.



Look well ahead; discretion exercise.
Not to rush blindly on, is to be wise.



'Tis best to be content with what we are,
And not by false pretense to double care.

Better a bracer than a leaner be;
And better, likewise, to pursue than flee.

❧ ❧ ❧

The true cement of all society
Is socialism in some small degree.

❧ ❧ ❧

Without the binding force of socialism
Society would be one great cataclysm.

❧ ❧ ❧

Society's cement is good-will toward each other.
Who would himself exist, must treat man as his brother.

❧ ❧ ❧

A better man cannot be injured by a worse;
The one offending brings upon himself the curse.

❧ ❧ ❧

Socrates, for teaching, would not have compensation;
The meed of his philosophy was progress of the nation.

❧ ❧ ❧

It is not safe to stem the multitude,
But one must do it for the public's good.

Do not permit the fear of death to swerve
You from your duty and the truth to serve.

❖ ❖ ❖

Make no concession that will be unjust,
Be always right, and in the future trust.

❖ ❖ ❖

Do not in court beg or entreat;
Persuade alone, and justice you will meet.

❖ ❖ ❖

By strict regard of social obligations,
A people holds its place among the nations.

❖ ❖ ❖

If people all were good and all content,
There would be little need of government.

❖ ❖ ❖

The tendency to break the social laws,
Is of human government the cause.

❖ ❖ ❖

While men remain unjust, strict law must be;
Without such law, there would be anarchy.

Not in all things, but still in some degree,
A sense of justice will protect society.

The wickedness of man is the chief cause
Of the enactment of restraining laws.

Some say that man's injustice is innate,
But to injustice the necessities relate.

Man's disposition to encroach must be restrained;
Without the law's restraint there would be little gained.

Let laws be made, first to restrain, then to reform;
Vindictive laws do much less good than harm.

Revengeful laws are sure to make
Revengeful those who the laws break.

Sallies of passion lend no aid to truth;
They ill become alike old age and youth.

Control of self will help to win a name,
Without it, no one ever did reach fame.



The one who helps to forge delusion's chains,
Must suffer disappointment for his pains.



If fond of allegory and allusion,
Truths can be imbibed without confusion.



Numbers—in the popular estimation—
Sustain a cause, and are its vindication.



In every meeting where self-love predominates
It discussion makes, and jealousy creates.



Attempts to crush the powers of greed
Too oft, alas, do not succeed.



"Divide and conquer," said the lion of the bulls;
It is the policy to follow towards fools.

This thing I have observed: as proof of hate,
The powerful will the weak calumniate.

A little learning is a proper thing.
A little learning will more learning bring.

There is in rhyme a power, it is conceded,
Which to impress a thought is sometimes needed.

"Too great familiarity breeds contempt;"
A rule from which no person is exempt.

The boy that cried, "Wolf! Wolf!" when no danger came
Afterwards was devoured, but was himself to blame.

The lying man, or the deceitful youth,
Will not be credited, even when he speaks the truth.

One may notorious be, and lack in fame.
There is for man a good, or an evil name.

And the world is a world of pain.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

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Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

Of the world, of the world, of the world.

The terms of an alliance must be equal,
Or disagreement else will be the sequel.



The one who can inflict a wound from far away,
Is to be feared more than an enemy at bay.



There is in rhyming and poetic measure
A lurking something to give people pleasure.



Between the microscope and telescope there lie
Great mysteries seen with the naked eye.



If you will read each couplet as you ought,
The same may start a line of useful thought.



Two nations may be friendly and, for a time, allies;
But differences between them most surely will arise.



There is among the nations no real friendship found;
Professions of true friendship with them are hollow sound.

Diplomacy with nations is delusion and deceit;
Each has for its sole object the other one to cheat.



Some gratitude may be displayed upon a throne,
But among the nations that feeling is unknown.



The spirit of the robber will incite to an invasion,
When there is, for a war, but very slight occasion.



The nations will advantage take of one another.
Do not expect a nation to act the part of brother.



When we have been to other lands magnanimous,
They have shown to us a very different animus.



The only thing for us to be, is as others are;
Always a little selfish, and of ourselves take care.



There is little in common between two nations;
But nothing uncommon to disturb their relations.

Nations exhibit towards each other their friendship,
By the large armies and the navies they equip!



The country that neglects its fortifications,
Will not long survive in the family of nations.



The nations show most clearly they mean each other harm,
By the number of the men, and of ships that they arm.



As two dogs when they stand apart and snarl,
So nations do when e'er they seek a quarrel.



The diplomat that always doth succeed,
Is he who caters to his country's greed.



Generosity between nations never pays;
The other one avails himself of it, always.



Nations will in battle meet,
When they should with friendship greet.

A government by the people is ideal,
There is but little about it that is real.

Republics by their faith do not abide;
Their tendency is always to backslide.

All peoples to self-government have a right;
But, of the way to get it, they lose sight.

They are tyrants who will not tolerate
Political opinions in a state.

If man to speak his mind is never free,
How much less than a galley slave is he?

Of the freedom of opinion and of vote,
The people must not sacrifice a groat.

By little and by little, our liberties are lost;
The first steps in the sacrifice are the steps that cost.

A people, freedom to enjoy, must always be on guard;
Wealth will try it to destroy, and will try very hard.

Remember this, that traitors will appear
In every enterprise, however clear.

Distinctions will arise between employer and employed,
Which the welfare of society should lead us to avoid.

If aught there be men should abhor,
It is a fratricidal war.

A national treaty is only a truce;
When either so wills, 'tis of no further use.

Be on guard against delusion,
For it is followed by confusion.

Be not discouraged by adversity,
For no one can far in the future see.

An evil which at first it were easy to discard,
To get rid of afterwards may be extremely hard.



Let this be known among all men :
Truth crushed to earth will rise again.



The publications of the world but few can read.
Of fewer words to give our thoughts there is great need.



Many words obscure the thoughts we would in words convey ;
Only enough is all we ought in any case to say.



As blood is indispensable to health,
So is money needed in the commonwealth.



The greatest of the triumphs of knavery
Is when men vote themselves into slavery.



All evils from whatever cause
Are less than evils from bad laws.

Great disasters of mankind come not from breaking laws;
Observe with care and find they come from making laws.

Oppression always comes by law, not from its violation;
By legislation is destroyed the freedom of a nation.

When laws are just, no person can complain,
And people from their violation will refrain;
But when the laws are made to aid the few,
You must expect disturbance will ensue.

Unequal laws will, in the course of time,
Meet with resistance and engender crime.

When cash is scarce, then times are hard, we know;
And will not people see what makes them so?

Patriotism by oppression is destroyed;
How needful then oppression to avoid.

Want and distress will dull one's sense of right;
Against distress and want, therefore, all men should fight.

With erring man most arguments are vain,
When from the error he has much to gain.

Liberty and justice are the same,
The difference is merely in the name.

Why should we the fixed laws of nature vex,
By putting active duties on the passive sex?

Ill-gotten power is always held with force;
For its own protection it never lacks resource.

"Man's inhumanity to man,
Makes countless thousands mourn!"

O let the crown of thorns
Be from the brow of labor torn.

Some pictures will have weight
Only with some shallowpate.

Some pictures you should not believe,
They are intended to deceive.

Have we reached that depth of sin

That money can elections win?

The faults which we in others find,

Are faults to which we are inclined.

The very faults that most do bother me

Are those which I do first in others see.

When wishes and opinions harmonize,

Conclusions are most frequently unwise.

Extravagance is the food of greed,

While poverty subsists on need.

This truth we read and should well heed:

That Rome's decline was caused by greed.

If men would always justice heed,

There would of gifts be little need.

To bring a bad law in disgrace,
Enforce the same in every place.

❖ ❖ ❖

If man knows anything, this he well knows:
In an unsettled question there is no repose.

❖ ❖ ❖

A question, when not settled right,
Remains in an unsettled plight.

❖ ❖ ❖

Evolution has occurred in mind and thought,
The same as has been in the person wrought.

❖ ❖ ❖

Man's inhumanity makes countless thousands weep;
The poor create the wealth, the rich absorb and keep.

❖ ❖ ❖

How strange that labor should by wealth be hated,
When all of wealth by labor is created.

❖ ❖ ❖

Will those most happy days return again,
When labor shall its share of wealth retain?

When money-owners get control of legislation,
There will be for poor debtors no salvation.



Let reason hold on appetite a stiffened rein,
Or else our reason will of appetite complain.



The sentiment the kernel is, the rhyme is but the shell;
The kernel always useful is, the husk quite so, as well.



The worst of men excuse can find,
For sins to which they are inclined.



A hovel may be heaven, and a palace may be hell,
Depending on the temper of those who in them dwell.



Dwelling in a cottage may be made delightful,
And living in a mansion is sometimes rendered frightful.



What we learn from books is too dearly bought;
They have too many words and not sufficient thought.

Our own faults we
In others see.

❖ ❖ ❖

If we our thoughts would more condense,
We would be showing better sense.

❖ ❖ ❖

Words, words, words, we in the papers find;
Editors are not enough to brevity inclined.

❖ ❖ ❖

That editorial comes nearest perfection,
Which excites to thought and causes reflection.

❖ ❖ ❖

If a person has no mind of his own,
He ought to leave the newspapers alone.

❖ ❖ ❖

To one who can for himself reason,
A good newspaper is in season;
But he who thinks not for himself,
Should lay most papers on the shelf.

❖ ❖ ❖

The American Bankers' Association
Is the power supreme in this great nation.

The soul of wit is brevity, as we are often told;
Still, witless words are multiplied many a thousand fold.

This should be borne in mind above all things,
That virtue its own compensation brings.

These are the sweetest words that mankind ever knew:
"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

The study of mankind should first be, how to live.
To this one subject every man should most attention give.

How to die is not a matter of very great concern;
Of what advantage can it be to us if we should learn?

The words in which the sentiment is expressed,
Are but the clothes in which the man is dressed.

If fear of evil were the motive to do good,
Then man would evil do if he in safety could.

Do good for the good there is in doing good;
Acting on this motive we will be what we should.

❖ ❖ ❖

Love your enemies, but in that case,
Love them because they are of your own race.

❖ ❖ ❖

Most people do not seem to understand,
That health and peace of mind go hand in hand.

❖ ❖ ❖

Bad laws distress the mind, and so impair the health.
So do bad laws, by stealth, destroy the Commonwealth.

❖ ❖ ❖

Who doth protest too much, you may suspect;
Protest is of the wrong, a true effect.

❖ ❖ ❖

By discussion is our form of government made secure;
Without discussion it cannot long endure.

❖ ❖ ❖

The man in power commands, but thoughts must rule.
Who without thought commands, is but a silly fool.

Friendships, as all may know,
Like plants, by cultivation grow.



Bad laws produce distress, distress destroys the will;
Without a will, man in distress remains so still.



The air is rendered purer by the storm.
So politics from agitation takes no harm.



No matter how much protest may abound,
True friendship between nations is not found.



Diplomacy is nothing but deceit,
One nation tries the other one to cheat.



As in diplomacy, the same it is in trade;
The nations from each other make all that can be made.



Apparent friendship between nations will remain
Until one can of the other some advantage gain.

Negotiation may true friendship seem to bring.
When, in fact, the end attained is just the other thing.



Great events from little circumstances spring.
In nature there is found no trifling thing.



The servants of the rich their masters will defend;
The lordlings on their hirelings always may depend.



'Tis better to be right and fail,
Than to be wrong, and then prevail.



Within a little couplet one may find
Enough to give direction to the mind.



What seems to be success may be a cheat;
Successful in the wrong will be defeat.



What seems to be success may not be so;
Success may be the advance guard of woe.

The future is to us a sealed book,
Within the lids of which we may not look.

Could we, as in the past, so in the future peer,
Mankind would stand aghast, and overcome with fear.

The old to go to rest should be content,
But youth departing is a sad event.

Age and decrepitude lend their assistance
To make an easy end to this existence.

In view of death, increasing years
Occasion proves for fewer tears.

Every tree in time must fall;
The years will bring an end of all.

Departing childhood leads to sadness;
Departing age, sometimes, to gladness.

One need not greatly death deplore, when

One has reached three score and ten.



For th' young and strong we may our tears restrain,

Departure of the old and weak is gain.



It is infirmity, instead of age,

That makes us seem to linger on the stage.



Where the tree doth fall, there let it lie;

Time will remove it for you, by and by.



Job's impatience appears in every verse;

His petulance led him his God to curse.



The things which most concern mankind, men will ignore;

And trifling matters, place such things before.



The future only lives, the past is dead;

Yet people backward look; few look ahead.

Smoothly down the stream of time we glide,
Heedless of what is on the river's side.

❖ ❖ ❖

It is our wont, misfortune to deplore,
But by it we are wiser than before.

❖ ❖ ❖

One fool doth often others fool;
Heed not a fool, is a wise rule.

❖ ❖ ❖

Large game is easier hit than small.
On game too small, waste not at all.

❖ ❖ ❖

If of your neighbor you can say no good,
You can, at least, be silent, and you should.

❖ ❖ ❖

Our tears dry quickly, and the morrow
Finds few traces of our sorrow.

❖ ❖ ❖

When knocking at your door, you hear some sin,
You need not always ask it to come in.

The shield is on the danger side,
Therefore, no evil can betide.



Pray, when were classes in America created?
That was the thing our ancestors most hated.



We have, alas, in this country, two classes:
The money-men and the dependent masses.



The laws should all men on an equal footing keep,
And not make wolves of some—of others, sheep.



A strict regard for justice, in the end,
Is that alone on which we can depend.



A greater truth was never said,
Than: "Who bends not will bump his head."



Society has certain rules,
To which all must conform;
Who neglect those rules are fools,
And do themselves most harm.

To do to others as you would that they should do to you,
You do yourself the greatest good and to the others, too.

Of the blessings of mankind,
The best of all is peace of mind.

The sentiment it is we would perpetuate,
Not words, but thoughts, to which the words relate.

Well chosen words help to preserve the thought,
And only for that reason rhyme is sought.

The words in which a saying is conveyed.
Are but the dress in which it is arrayed.

A sentiment in happy words expressed,
Is like a woman or a man well dressed.

A sentiment, though good, if poorly told,
Can never of the mind take proper hold.

A sentiment expressed in proper phrase,
Will not soon perish; and may last always.

❧ ❧ ❧

A thought well woven in a pleasant rhyme,
Will better please and last a longer time.

❧ ❧ ❧

The people who are known as plucky
Are the ones who are called lucky.

❧ ❧ ❧

The want of luck is but a poor excuse
For one who might the best of luck produce.

❧ ❧ ❧

The coming on of sleep no one can tell.
So is approach of death, insensible.

❧ ❧ ❧

Articulo mortis no person knows;
To one it is like singing in repose.

❧ ❧ ❧

Most clearly the approach of death is with a stealthy tread;
Before the fact is to one known, he is among the dead.

That will show in the flesh, which is bred in the bone;
From this firm law of nature, escaping there is none.



The fewer drugs the doctors give,
The longer will the patient live.



The jealous mind will proofs of guilt create,
Nor one short hour for confirmation wait.



Of all the evils that mankind have cursed,
An evil habit is by far the worst.



Of all oppressors, habit is the most severe;
It is the tyrant from whom we have most to fear.



An evil habit will more ruin bring
To man, or boy, than any other thing.



Look well to your habits, for 'tis they,
If unresisted, will bring you great dismay.

Habit is a tyrant which we ourselves enthrone;
And a more exacting tyrant mankind has never known.

Without remorse, or with abated breath,
Habit drags its victims down to death.

The drinking habit may its victim first annoy,
But growing stronger, it is able to destroy.

A vicious habit, unresisted, stronger grows,
Until it leads its victim by the nose.

To resist a habit requires great strength of will,
But, unless resisted, it remains a habit still.

Avoid a vicious habit above all things,
For in its train it many evils brings.

A habit is of all our foes the worst to overcome,
And of all habits none so bad as that of drinking rum.

Begin your duties with the rising sun,
And you will rest contented when the day is done.

Heed the messenger of day, the faithful lark;
To the rising sun he sings and retires at dark.

If you for superfluities your money spend,
The selling of the things you need will be the end.

Think as you may, as beasts of prey,
Man can outstrip all any day.

Is there a power the world can move?
Undoubtedly that power is love.

True love is uniformly kind,
To all defects true love is blind.

Beware of habit, for there the danger lies;
Habit often leads to human sacrifice.

Man has to struggle hard, a habit bad to mend;
This is the worst of enemies with which he must contend.

Of the decline and fall of Rome we often read,
And that such decline and fall were caused by greed

History has made this fact entirely sure;
Republics with unequal laws cannot endure.

About the future man but little knows;
Or where, after this life on earth, he goes.

We know full well on earth we dwell,
But what know we of heaven or hell?

Why should we care for future life,
When life, at best, is rife with strife?

When to earth's bosom we descend
There will be of our ills an end.

Life is made up of joy and grief;
What follows life is mere belief.



The day of toil gives way to sweet repose.
The life of sorrow in like manner goes.



The end is sleep with no disturbing dream;
That this is best for us, to one doth seem.



All mortals have of human nature more or less,
And, as a rule, far more than human nature will confess.



Men are too weak their weakness to concede,
They wish to be thought wise when they are weak, indeed.



Some men are wise, some otherwise;
The otherwise the wise despise.



The ass was proud when bags of coin he bore;
The rich have reason to be proud, no more.

